

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 02966 170936Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 170833Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8377

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2966

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA TU GR (HARTMAN, ARTHUR)

SUBJECT: HARTMAN MISSION TO ANKARA AND ATHENS

REF: STATE 087787

1. DRAWING ON THE SUBSTANCE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN'S TRAVEL AS SET FORTH REFTEL, I SPOKE TO JOHN TZOUNIS THIS MORNING AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARRANGEMENTS I MADE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE. I TOLD TZOUNIS THAT HARTMAN WAS ENDEAVORING TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETINGS IN ANKARA ON APRIL 21-22 AND THAT IF THESE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE WORKED OUT, HARTMAN WOULD BE PREPARED TO TRAVEL TO ATHENS ARRIVING HERE WEDNESDAY EVENING APRIL 23. I TOLD TZOUNIS THAT THE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS HAD NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED, BUT IF THEY WERE, HARTMAN WOULD THEN BE AVAILABLE FOR TALKS IN ATHENS ON THURSDAY APRIL 24 AND FRIDAY MORNING APRIL 25.

2. TZOUNIS SAID SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE FINE WITH THE GOG AND THAT WE SHOULD LET HIM KNOW AS SOON AS THEY ARE FIRMED UP. I ALSO TOLD TZOUNIS THAT IF THESE ENVISAGED ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE, IT WAS ANTICIPATED THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S PRESS SPOKESMAN WOULD ANNOUNCE THEM AT HIS NOON PRESS BRIEFING, WASHINGTON TIME, ON APRIL 18. TZOUNIS INDICATED THIS WOULD BE QUITE SATISFACTORY TO THE GOG.

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3. SINCE BITSIOS HAD BEEN MOST ANXIOUS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE
YESTERDAY TO FIND OUT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT
WHETHER HARTMAN WOULD BE VISITING ATHENS AS EARLY AS APRIL 21
OR 22, I DECIDED IT SHOULD BE ALRIGHT TO GO AS FAR AS I DID
WITH TZOUNIS IN THIS CONVERSATION, MAKING IT CLEAR THAT THIS
WAS ALL TENTATIVE THUS FAR, BUT ALSO LETTING HIM KNOW THAT
HARTMAN WAS NOT PLANNING TO ARRIVE IN ATHENS BEFORE APRIL 23
AT THE EARLIEST.
KUBISCH

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